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ABOUT THE COVER

A female figure sports a lady's riding crop and habit—to be worn during equestrian activities—in the pages of *La Belle Assemblée*, or *Bell's Court and Fashionable Magazine*, which was published from 1806 to 1832. The outfit was designed by a "Mrs. Bell of No. 26 Charlotte Street, Bloomsbury" for the October 1815 issue. The image of the woman is a favorite of the archivists at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York and has become the special collections' mascot, affectionately nicknamed "Violet." Fashion illustrations are just one example of the many types of design records that archivists may encounter in their collections. This issue of *American Archivist* features a special section devoted to design records and best practices for managing them. *Artwork courtesy of the Gladys Marcus Library's Special Collections and College Archives at the Fashion Institute of Technology–SUNY.*